

# THE GLEICHEN CALL

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## CGIT Celebrate 40th Anniversary

In December of the year 1916 a group of five women were having lunch together in downtown Toronto. Many requests had come from teen-age girls for a church program of their own. The boy's Trail Ranger and Tuxis Movement had literally swept the country. Now the girls were asking for mid-week group experience.

These five women calling themselves the "Advisory Committee for Co-operation in Girls' Work" decided to ask the girls themselves what they would like in the way of a program. The women felt that the program must be truly Canadian, basically Christian, and not just a copy of the boy's program.

Right from the beginning the movement was planned by representatives of the Protestant churches and the Y.W.C.A. It was early felt that the Sunday School class should be the basis unit for the organization — so Sunday School classes of teen-age girls were invited to become C.G.I.T. groups, with their teacher as leader. People were sent out right across Canada, and large rallies of girls were held both in Edmonton and Calgary to acquaint girls with the new movement. Everywhere the rallies met with great response from teen-aged girls.

As early as 1919, C.G.I.T. started to camp. In the early twenties, campers wore gym bloomers out of doors, but to those early 500 campers in 1919, camp meant a highlight in the C.G.I.T. year, just as it does today.

The C.G.I.T. movement has celebrated some of its highlight birthdays. In 1935, the 20th birthday was celebrated with the beginning of C.G.I.T. Week. In the 25, or Silver Anniversary in 1940, Canadian Girls in Training wore tiny silver bells which actually rang, attached to an anniversary badge on their midday pocket.

The first nationally published Vesper Service came out in 1940—although many groups had had their own services prior to that. Now, groups all across Canada each December use the same service of worship.

Here in Alberta, each summer at Camp Council, Senior (15 years and over) members of C.G.I.T. meet together to discuss the movement in the province and make plans for the coming year. At Camp Council, the provincial president and vice-president are chosen. On the Thanksgiving weekend, delegates from senior groups meet together for the Senior Provincial Conference. This conference started in 1948, and has been held annually since. In 1952, the conference moved to the Agricultural College at Olds, in order to provide a living-in experience for the girls.

From the early days of C.G.I.T., the Women's Missionary Society has taken a great interest in the movement. This interest has been a great encouragement to the girls and leaders.

The Alberta Girls' Work Board composed of representatives of the Baptist, Presbyterian and United churches, meet monthly to plan for Alberta C.G.I.T. In 1956 there are over 400 groups in Alberta.

## THE WORLD OF WHEAT

The "soil bank" proposal put forward by some farm leaders in Western Canada recently as a possible means of curtailing the production of wheat and building up the soil until such a time as the land might again be needed for grain production has received little encouragement in Ottawa. Whatever the merits of the plan—and it has not a few supporters in the west—it is apparently the opinion of those who formulate policy that Western Canada should continue to support at least 20 million acres of wheat (roughly the 1955 acreage) and that there would be a danger of eventually placing wheat in a deficit position if a proposal of this kind were adopted. Better, it was stated, to have a surplus of wheat than not enough wheat with which to supply our export markets. Possibly

the stand taken is a sound one. There is no assurance, however, that the wheat acreage, abnormally low in 1955, because of the late and backward spring, will remain at the same level. The figure could, in fact, easily revert to somewhere in the neighborhood of 24 million acres, the average for the five year period, 1950 to 1954. Moreover, many observers feel that our wheat problem is likely to be continuing one for which some long term solution must be found and eventually some means may have to be devised to encourage a shift in the production pattern in those areas which are best able to diversify. Again, while the odds are that Western Canada will again experience some "off" years which could change the supply picture, even if she does, it seems reasonable to expect that, because of the many advances in agriculture during the past ten to fifteen years, yields, even under adverse conditions, will be on a somewhat higher level than formerly. Nor, as we have seen during the past few years, does it pay to count too heavily upon nature to restore a more normal balance between supply and demand. Whether the wheat surplus problem will be solved in a natural way, therefore, or whether some man-made plan such as the "soil bank" will have to be resorted to, remains to be seen.—World of Wheat.

## Town & District

Mr. and Mrs. A. Murray of McLennan spent a few days in town last week the guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. Pugh. Alex was formerly connected with the Blackfoot Indian agency office here before moving up north.

The great Legion annual bonspiel was held last Wednesday here where rinks entered in the spiel from as far away as Calgary. That evening when it was all over Les Menard's rink was declared the winner by having made the most points in two games. When the bonspiel was finished all adjourned to the Legion hall where the winners received their prizes. The evening was spent in entertainment.

Bob Stabback of Calgary spent several days in town last week visiting his sister Mrs. G. Evans.

Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Oliver returned to town last week after spending several weeks visiting relatives in western United States. They went as far south as California. After all their travels they think there is no place like Gleichen.

The annual meeting of the town ratepayers Monday night was very poorly attended. Three ratepayers attended. When time came to call the meeting to order there were no ratepayers present to act as chairman. Finally N. T. Purcell drifted in and was made chairman. About the time all were preparing to go home Elmer Bolinger came in. He gave an interesting report on the hospital. Those present were: Mrs. Kileup, Mr. and Mrs. Hunter, H. Colopys, N. T. Purcell, E. Bolinger and A. Horn.

Major E. Broom, superintendent of Eventide Home has been in Toronto for the past week attending a meeting of superintendents. Meantime Capt. Kerr is in charge of the Home.

Gordon Bogstie suffered severe burns to his face last Saturday afternoon. He was repairing a car on which there was a slight fire. He attempted to blow it out and blew the flame down the oil pipe which ignited the gas in the pipe. It blew into his face.

Canadian defence expenditures run close to \$2,000,000,000 a year. The open heart method is employed for most of Canada's steel production.

Canadian production of printing inks rose to an all-time peak total of 25,735,017 pounds in 1955. Experts say declining tax revenues in Canada in recent months indicate present high taxation level has reached the point of diminishing returns.



Writer Babs Brown, composer Richard Johnston, and consultant Walter Graham have collaborated to produce scripts for the new CBC radio children's series "Legends of Ancient Greece", which will be heard every week on the Trans-Canada Network. The Greek

vase, drinking cup and ladle they are holding are from the sixth century; the design on the vase shows a story which will be the subject of one of the broadcasts. The theme music on the Greek program has been taken from one of the few surviving fragments of authentic ancient Greek songs.

## FROM THE FILES OF THE CALL TWENTY YEARS AGO

Engineer Lester is a busy man these days keeping the water tank from freezing. He has to be on the job at all hours to fire up.

Notwithstanding the extremely cold weather Gleichen's ladies brigade march steadily on with perfect contempt for the cold. Just how they keep their "beans" warm is a mystery.

The cold weather has played havoc with hockey games here. Not a game has been played for two weeks. This is not conducive of keeping hockey players in trim for playoff games.

J. C. Hatcheson who looks after an official government thermometer reports that on several occasions recently it registered 42 below. Now we know what 40 below feels like.

Miss Mary Hawthorn, formerly of Gleichen, now of Vancouver was a visitor last week at the home of Mrs. J. Eglese.

Misfortune struck John Boyd last week. He went out to the barn to find his valuable pointer dog dead. Next day he was informed that his children's pony had also died.

Miss L. Morton of the public school staff is confined to her home through illness. Meantime Mrs. W. Smith has taken charge of her room in the school and will teach until Miss Morton is able to take up her duties again.

There have been one or two farm changes in this vicinity. Sandy Perry is vacating the Curran farm and is moving to the farm of Bert Heacock.

Wm. Ferguson left a couple of weeks ago for a visit to the Pacific coast.

While skating at the arena Glen Anglin crashed into the boards and broke his kneecap. He is now in a Calgary hospital.

Some idea of the amount of snow that has fallen this winter may be gauged by the fact that one farmer northeast of town was with out tobacco for two weeks. He finally got fed up with the snow and walked to town for some of the weed.

The Call forty years ago, Feb. 12 1916 says: Friday night was a military one in Gleichen. It was learned during the day the train from the west was cancelled. The rink company got busy and announced a special train would be made up in Calgary and the boys of the 82nd Battalion would be here. Arriving here with band and hockey team and many soldiers, they marched up the street with the band playing and by the time they got to the hotel the instruments were frozen. The hockey game resulted in 2-1 win for Gleichen. 82nd team had never been beaten this winter. The next night at Medicine Hat the 82nd beat the Monarchs 10-3. Gleichen lineup: Donnelly, Fawcett, Gaudaur, Alex McHugh, Beaupre, MacIntyre and W. Service. At the dance after the game the hall was jammed to the doors. The next night the same band put on another dance and

another great attended. After all the expenses were paid the hockey club had \$25.15 left over which was given to the patriotic fund. As the result of all this a number of recruits joined the 82nd.



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## Not enough thinking greatest affliction modern generation

Modern society's greatest affliction, says a University of Michigan psychologist, is that the present generation doesn't have to do enough thinking.

Dr. Wilma Donahue told 5,000 members of the Los Angeles County Medical Association that one of the best ways to keep young is to continue to use the brain, "for without using it constantly, brain cells atrophy just as muscle cells do when there is lack of exercise."

She said she is convinced that children today do less thinking "Everything is done for us. We are told what to think and seldom

than their grandparents. The farmer of the past had to meet some new crisis every day. Less thinking means that only 10 percent of this generation really are creative people.

"It used to be considered that older people are dumber than younger ones, but new studies show this is not necessarily true. Twenty years after Iowa State University graduates were tested for intelligence, they were given identical tests. After 20 years it was amazing to find that the intelligence had increased instead of being dulled by time. Comprehension, vocabularies and general information had increased.

### Lack of speed

"After 50, however, there may be some decrease in mental abilities. The decrease may be only the lack of speed. What happens to athletes as they age isn't due to poorer muscles; it's more that their brains are less able in speed of perception and response."

Dr. Donahue advised older people who are thinking of retiring to do more than merely prepare to develop a hobby.

"It should be much more than a hobby, and something the person thinks will be of real value. Those who earlier have learned to get along well with people are least apt to get cantankerous as they age."

## Lake wheat outyields Thatcher

OTTAWA—Lake wheat was first distributed to farmers in western Saskatchewan and eastern Alberta in 1954 by the Experimental Farm, Canada Department of Agriculture, Scott, Sask. However, it was tested as a hybrid for four years previous to this in 20 tests in the area. The yield results since 1950 compared with Thatcher may be summarized as follows.

In the Saskatchewan cereal zone 1D, roughly the heavy soils of the Rosetown, Kindersley, Esten area, the yield comparisons for 30 tests are: Lake—30.7 bushels and Thatcher—29.2.

In cereal zone 2D, taking in an area west of Saskatoon to the Alberta border, the yields from 19 tests are: Lake—30.0 bushels and Thatcher—27.6.

In cereal zone 3E, the Lloydminster, Turtleford, Paynton area, the yields from 18 tests are: Lake—29.7 bushels and Thatcher—27.2.

In cereal zone 3G, the North Battleford, Blaine Lake area, Lake yielded 26.9 bushels and Thatcher 25.7 as an average of 15 tests.

In the Meadow Lake area of north western Saskatchewan, the average yields for the past six years show Lake to have yielded 38.3 bushels to 35.6 for Thatcher.

Finally, on the grey-wooded soils of the north, the results from 24 tests are: Lake—28.4 bushels and Thatcher—26.7.

For the whole area of western and north western Saskatchewan, the yield results from 110 tests show that Lake averaged 30.7 bushels per acre to 28.7 bushels for Thatcher, a difference of two bushels per acre in favor of Lake.

A cow's milk flow decreases about 75 percent when her thyroid gland is removed.

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## Mindum still best macaroni variety

The hope that one or both of the newly developed rust resistant varieties of Durum wheat would measure up to Mindum in macaroni making qualities and thus be eligible, for the top Durum grades, has not been realized.

Thus, regardless of whether or not these varieties are licensed for distribution by the Canada Department of Agriculture, the situation remains essentially unchanged and the varieties Mindum, Stewart, Carleton and Nugget alone will be eligible to grade No. 1, 2 or 3 C.W. Amber Durum. Of these, Stewart is the only variety grown to any extent in Western Canada at the present time.

The new varieties DT 136 and DT 137, however, do reflect considerable progress in the production of rust resistant Durum wheats and they are reported to contain several promising lines from which it may be possible for plant breeders to develop varieties consistent with Canada's high standard of quality.

For the time being and until some suitable variety is produced that can be safely grown in areas subject to rust, the production of Durum wheat is likely to remain largely centered in southwestern Saskatchewan and southern Alberta. Fortunately, in both of these areas a good supply of seed, mostly of the Stewart variety, is available for planting in 1956.

## Ancient Incas first to record vital statistics

Keeping statistics on births, deaths and marriages is by no means a modern practice. Egypt in the age of the Pharaohs, ancient Romans and the Incas of Peru also recorded them, according to a new United Nations study, entitled "Handbook of Vital Statistics Methods."

It was prepared by the U.N.'s Statistical Office to help governments develop and appraise their services for recording live and still births, deaths, marriages and divorces. This information is important for planning and carrying out social and economic policies.

Based on data from more than 100 countries and territories, the Handbook is the most comprehensive survey of its kind ever to have been made.

The registration of births, deaths and marriages, it shows, has had a very long history. Thus, ancient Egypt had a vital statistics scheme in operation as far back as 1250 B.C., and citizens of Rome in the sixth century B.C. were required to report the arrival of new-born children within 30 days of their birth.

Registration systems as known today, however, really began with the Incas of Peru. They had a well-developed records system, even though they did not know how to write. They used knotted strings called "quipus" for the purpose.

## :: GEMS OF THOUGHT ::

**HAPPINESS**  
Happiness is spiritual, born of Truth and Love. It is unselfish; therefore it cannot exist alone, but requires all mankind to share it.  
—Mary Baker Eddy.

The best way to secure future happiness is to be as happy as is rightfully possible today.  
—Charles W. Elliot.

Business is the raw material of happiness.  
—William Channing Gannett.

Happiness quite unshared can scarcely be called happiness. It has no taste.  
—Mrs. Gaskell.

No thoroughly occupied man was ever yet very miserable.  
—L. E. London.

Happiness is neither within us only, or without us; it is the union of ourselves with God.  
—Blaise Pascal.

**FAST START**  
When a lizard dashes away from an enemy, he is likely to leave his tail to distract the pursuer's attention.

## The Pattern Shop

### YOUNG CHARMERS

Crochet this lovely new fashion outfit



7001  
by Alice Brooks

Thrill your little girl with this lovely new-fashion outfit! Easy double-crochet forms the pretty pattern; little lacy scallops the dainty edging on shrug.

Crochet Pattern 7001: Directions for Girls' Sizes 4-6; 8-10; 12-14 included. Use sport yarn or cotton.

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## Fashions

Half-size fashions



4654 14½-24½  
by Anne Adams

Sew-easy jumper and companion blouse—fashions that double your winter wardrobe! These new styles are designed especially for the shorter, fuller figure—with lovely, slimming lines. Proportioned to fit—no alterations!

Pattern 4654: Half Sizes 14½, 16½, 18½, 20½, 22½, 24½. Size 16½; jumper takes 3 yards 39-inch fabric; blouse takes 1½ yards.

This pattern easy to use, simple to sew, is tested for fit. Has complete illustrated instructions.

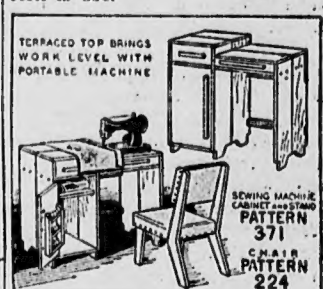
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**MECHANICAL PROGRESS**  
A century ago over 50 man-hours were required to produce a 20 bushel per acre wheat crop.

At the beginning of this century, through engineering ingenuity, this had been reduced to eight man-hours per acre.

Today, with engineering techniques and modern farm machines a 20 bushel per acre crop can be produced with about three man-hours.

## Eggs without shells soon says Canadian Poultry Review

Housewives may be buying eggs without shells in the future, according to the Canadian Poultry Review. Sold in 12-compartment polyethylene packets, the eggs should be cheaper and just as good as those in shells, the magazine says.

Quoting Prof. L. B. Darrah, poultry marketing specialist who developed the idea at Cornell University agricultural experimental station, the magazine continues:

"What's more, this system which incorporates certain electronic devices, will eliminate the present inaccurate system of grading eggs."

"The 12-cup-like compartments in the packet, each holding an egg or two, measure two-by-three inches and are about three-fourths of an inch deep.

"A machine breaks open the eggs and drops them in the individual compartments with a strong film. There is no handling by human hands.

**Lower Cost**  
"Early indications are that the process will lower the cost of marketing eggs and keep them fresher longer, Professor Darrah said.

"The Cornell specialist said the process offers a real opportunity for increased sales of pee-wee eggs. By placing two pee-wee eggs in each compartment, a double-yolked egg can be made available to consumers at about the large egg price. Normally, pee-wee eggs are more difficult to sell than medium or large eggs.

"Although the naked eggs can be kept without refrigeration, they will remain fresher longer if they are refrigerated, the professor said.

"Besides the convenience of not having to dispose of egg shells, the housewife's work is streamlined further by boiling or poaching the eggs right in the sealed containers.

"After cooking, the top film is removed and the eggs can be eaten

right from the container.

"The eggs must be removed from the container for frying or scrambling. This is because frying pan heat is too much for the polyethylene."

The Indonesian republic is made up of 79,000,000 persons speaking some 40 languages. 3179

## FESTIVE—quick to fix! with Modern Fast-Acting DRY Yeast!

**FAN TANS**  
Measure into large bowl, ½ c. lukewarm water, 1 tsp. granulated sugar; stir until sugar is dissolved. Sprinkle slowly with 1 envelope Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast. Let stand 10 min., THEN stir well. Scald 1 c. milk and stir in 5 tbs. granulated sugar, 2 tps. salt; cool to lukewarm. Add to yeast mixture and stir in ½ cup lukewarm water. Beat in 3 c. once-sifted bread flour; beat well. Beat in 4 tbs. melted shortening. Work in 3 c. more once-sifted bread flour. Knead until smooth and elastic; place in greased bowl and brush top with melted butter or shortening. Cover and set in warm place, free from draught. Let rise until doubled in bulk. Punch down dough in bowl, grease top and let rise again until nearly doubled. Punch down dough and roll out, half at a time, into a rectangle a scant ¼" thick; lift dough, cover with cloth and let rest 5 min. Brush with melted butter or shortening; cut into strips ½" wide. Bile 7 strips together; cut into ½" pieces. Place cut-side up in greased muffin pans; separate slices a little at top. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in hot oven, 400°, 15-20 min.



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## BOZO



By Foxo Reardon



## OUR COMPLETE SHORT STORY—

## Ebb-Tide of Fear

By FERN AUBLE

EDDIE RICHTER closed the hospital door gently. He stood outside for a moment, his eyes narrowed thoughtfully. Inside, his wife lay quietly, a gentle smile curving her lips as she held Eddie's promise to her heart.

"Don't you worry your pretty little head about anything, Mary," he had told her, his eyes earnest and loving. "Everything's going to be all right. I've got the promise of a fine new job and we won't have to worry about bills or expenses or anything from now on."

Mary had smiled at him, a little piece of her heart breaking off as it did each time she looked at his worried eyes, the discouraged sag to his shoulders.

Eddie Richter, one-time money rider. Even yet, jockeys throughout the racing world talked of him with more than a little awe. He was a sort of shining star toward which silk-clad figures, up for the first time in a classic of sleek horseflesh, groped for inspiration. For Eddie Richter had been an inspired rider. Once up on a horse, it was as if he and the horse became a composite whole.

Eddie had never been a brutal rider. He loved horses and he understood them. It had been said of him that he had never whipped a horse across the finish line. He didn't have to. When it came time for the horse to make the final bid, Eddie, his small body melting into his mount, would whisper encouragement. Eddie sure could bring out that last ounce of endurance.

That is, until the day he was up on Galloping Wind, the great chestnut mare that had startled the entire racing world with her amazing bursts of speed. Eddie had ridden her to victory on four previous occasions. On the day in question, he looked at the track nervously. It had drizzled all night and the course was a sea of mud. Galloping Wind was strictly a fast-track horse. She'd never liked mud, and there was no reason to suppose that her dislike would be lessened any today just because this particular race happened to be the classic of the year.

The horses were brought to the barrier, and Eddie leaned over Galloping Wind's neck and spoke to her reassuringly. She tossed her head and reared. The horses broke raggedly and Galloping Wind, on the outside, ran last. At the quarter mile she was still trailing, as she was at the half. At the three-quarter post, Eddie

leaned over and said coaxingly, "Come on, girl, now's the time. You can do it. Why, the rest of these bangtails can't touch you for speed. Come on, now, let's show 'em."

Galloping Wind lengthened her stride in response to the appeal in Eddie's voice. She moved up, making her bid. And then, with victory within grasp, Galloping Wind stumbled and went down, with Eddie under her.

When they got him out, the Doc shook his head as he went over Eddie's body with knowing fingers. "I don't know," he said doubtfully, "he's pretty much bunged up. We can tell more after we get him to the hospital and have X-rays taken."

They took Eddie, mercifully unconscious, to the hospital. When he came to, he was in a cast and Mary was leaning over him anxiously, her heart in her eyes. Eddie smiled crookedly. "Oh, Eddie, Eddie, darling," she said, shakily, "you had me scared to death."

He lay there four months, his broken body an intolerable agony. The pain wouldn't have been so bad, if he could have gotten the picture out of his mind of lying under Galloping Wind, the thunder of flying hoofs coming toward him. Something had gone out of Eddie then and been replaced by fear. He'd gotten well. The Doc had even told him he could ride again, but Eddie didn't want to ride again. He wouldn't admit it, even to himself, but he was scared stiff of the idea of throwing a leg over a horse again—ever.

When he came out of the hospital, he and Mary faced the fact that their savings were gone. Things got steadily worse. Eddie didn't know anything but horses and horse racing and he couldn't endure the sight of a horse.

Finally, matters came to a climax when Mary had to be rushed to hospital for an emergency operation. She came through all right, but behind the love in her eyes there was worry too. Eddie had seen it just a minute ago, just before he left the room.

As he stood outside the door, Eddie came to his decision. He left the hospital and turned toward the track and to George Graybar. Graybar, fabulously wealthy sportsman, owner of the Graybar Stables from which came Shooting Comet, Whirlwind, Highpockets and a host of other famous horses — and Galloping Wind.

Something in Eddie's face brought a welcoming smile from Graybar. "Well, it's about time, Eddie," he boomed. "I wondered how long it would be before you'd be around to see me."

They walked out to the stables, to the smell of clean hay and the nickerings of the horses in their stalls. When they came to the last stall, there was Galloping Wind. The great horse stretched out her neck and nuzzled softly. Eddie swallowed the lump in his throat as he turned to Graybar who was watching them.

"She remembers me!" Eddie's eyes were shining. "When can I ride her, sir?" There was a great excitement in his eyes. Eddie had come home.

## Process of muscle contractions remains mystery to scientists

When a dog wags its tail, a baby toddles across the floor, or you scratch your nose, the process is more complex than the workings of a hydrogen bomb. All are examples of muscular contraction—so commonplace and yet so mysterious that it has baffled the most gifted scientists.

Writing of the "miracle of muscle" in a recent Reader's Digest, J. D. Ratcliff says that more than half the human body is muscle. From birth to death, muscle plays a critical role in all we do. We speak of "muscles of iron." Yet the working element in muscle is a soft jelly. How this jelly contracts to lift 1,000 times its own weight is one of the miracles of the universe.

There are three types of human muscle: the muscles of motion such as those which propel us when we walk; the "smooth" muscles which control such involuntary actions as digestion; and the type of muscle found in the heart. All types are "startlingly efficient machines," says Reader's Digest, for converting chemical energy (food) into mechanical energy (work).

Muscle process unexplained No book of the hundreds written on muscle has ever explained fully the process by which muscle contracts—how you wiggle a toe. Dr. Szent-Gyorgyi, Nobel Prize winner and authority on muscle, has come close to creating "living" tissue in the laboratory by mixing muscle proteins and adding a droplet of adenosine triphosphate (ATP), a



YOUNG WINNER—George Wright, 14, New York City student, smiles on TV program 'The Big Surprise' after winning \$50,000 for answering questions ranging from Bach to Babe Ruth. He'll have a chance at the \$100,000 jackpot. With him is MC Jack Barry.

## Quaint thatched roofs of Britain giving way to slates and tiles

Britain's cottages are losing their hair! The quaint thatch roof that sheltered Shakespeare's bride no longer tops the average village home, says the National Geographic School Bulletin.

True, Ann Hathaway's cottage near Stratford-on-Avon; and that of Scottish poet Robert Burns near Ayr, are kept in the original thatched state. Also thousands of other centuries old houses still rear shaggy crowns of wheat straw or Norfolk reed above gar-

dens gay with roses and lilies, but their number is dwindling.

Home grown roofs are giving way to slates, tiles and asbestos shingles for numerous reasons. Fire insurance on crew cut cottages is five to seven times as high as on new style buildings. A law forbids roofing new houses with the traditional covering of olden days.

## Lack of thatchers

Perhaps thatch's greatest deterrent has been lack of thatchers. Young men returning from years of war have taken up work more quickly learned and higher paid. Most thatchers today are mature men who learned the trade in pre-war days, often from fathers or grandfathers. It is a traditional craft in some families, a secret cherished from generation to generation. This makes it hard for an outsider to break in.

Now, because of a shortage of skilled thatchers, the British Government is sponsoring an apprenticeship program.

Even a woman has joined some 800 men in the Association of Master Thatchers.

Besides its rustic charm, the thatch roof has practical advantages. The layers of matting act as insulation, keeping out Summer heat and Winter's icy blasts. Usually the materials are easily gathered nearby.

## Lasts half century

British thatchers use bundles of wheat straw or tougher Norfolk reed. These are pegged to a lace-work of ash or hazel poles laid over the rafters. The rows start at the eaves and overlap like ordinary shingles or a well made wig. They are fastened down with tarred strings, straightened with a wooden comb, and sometimes overlaid with strips of split hazel or willow. The use of wire is a modern innovation.

A good thatching job takes one man two or more months and lasts 25 to 50 years, with minor repairs every 10 or 12 years. New thatch is laid over the old, adding warmth and protection and piling up over the centuries to a thickness of several feet.

## Cattle brands to include age

Single numbers for age tally marks along with cattle brands have been authorized by the Montana livestock sanitary board.

The brand tally numbers zero to nine will denote the years 1950 to 1959. They will be used with the owner's recorded brand. The marks will be allowed high on the neck or low on the thigh on the same side as the recorded brand.

Age markings have been used by some western Canadian ranchers for years.

Be a Courteous Driver

## THE TILLERS



## Interstellar space not empty--contains vast clouds of matter

Radio, telescopes and other newly developed instruments have shown that interstellar space, once thought empty, is populated by vast clouds of matter, according to Dr. H. C. Van de Hulst, astrophysicist at the observatory in Leiden, The Netherlands.

## Guard against fire hazards in chick brooders

REGINA.—Farmers who plan to brood chicks, turkey poults or young pigs with electricity this spring should give serious thought to fire prevention when preparing the brooder house.

J. A. Peck, farm mechanics specialist with the department of agriculture, said all heat lamps should be in porcelain sockets equipped with heat-resistant cord, and should be suspended from the ceiling of the building on a chain.

No lamp is safe when hung, he said, unless it is protected by a hoop which would turn it over and away from combustible material if it fell. Hoops suited to the purpose are provided on most brooder equipment for sale, and if the farmer is setting up his own heating system a hoop can be made from a couple of short metal straps, he continued.

Several brooder house fires resulting in heavy financial losses are reported each year in Saskatchewan, said Mr. Peck, almost all of which could be prevented if heating equipment were properly installed and cared for.

Reasonable precautions should be taken at all times, he said, regardless of the source of heat, bearing in mind that any highly combustible material left near a heat source is a fire hazard.

In the case of a 250-watt heat lamp, tests have shown temperatures of 600 degrees on the lamp surface. This temperature is capable of igniting straw at one inch, he said, charring it at three inches and scorching it at six inches distance.

## Dogpower operates Alaskan railroad

One railroad still operating today uses nothing but dogs as motive power. It's the 45 mile, two-foot gauge line from Nome to Shelton in western Alaska.

Built in 1908 to serve the mines near Shelton, it operated for a few years with steam power until the locomotive was dismantled and the road abandoned. Since then, the few Eskimos and whites in the area have continued to use the line intermittently with dog teams pulling up to 1,000 pounds of men and supplies.

Where bridges have disappeared and the track is impassable, the cars are drawn over the ice until they can be returned to the rails.

## Standard Bridge

by M. Harrison-Gray

Dealers: South

East-West game

N. 8 7 6  
K J 9 8  
Q 8  
J 7 6  
W. 5 4  
A K J 9 5 2  
A 8 6 2  
S. 10 9 4 3 2  
A K 10 2  
E. 8 7 5 4  
K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
Q 5 4

Lessons can often be drawn from hands played in duplicate at a number of tables. In a recent pairs contest the auction usually started with One Spade by South. Two Diamonds by West. Two Spades by North and Three Spades by South. Most of the South players then made the obvious-looking bid of Four Spades; as a result they either doubled West in Five Diamonds for a poor score or went down in Five Spades through having to lose three tricks in Clubs.

At a few tables South struck oil by trying Three Hearts on the second round. In a final contract of Five Hearts South was not bothered by the four-one break in trumps, for a silly dummy reversal gave him 12 tricks after the lead of O K. He was better off with eight cards in Hearts than with ten in Spades.

"Recent observations," says Dr. Van de Hulst, "show that in the neighborhood of the solar system interstellar gas makes up about one-quarter of the total weight of a given volume, stars accounting for the rest."

"About 1930 astronomers discovered with some shock that as the light of the stars passes through certain regions of interstellar space it is dimmed and scattered in various directions. Up to that time they had the attitude toward interstellar absorption of light that some people have toward ghosts: They didn't believe in its existence and yet they were afraid of it."

"Their apprehension was easy to understand. If indeed interstellar haze dimmed the light of distant stars then their calculations of stellar distances were off and their picture of our galaxy was wrong."

"Further studies proved that the fear was justified. Starlight passing through our galaxy loses roughly half its energy by absorption and scattering in every 2,000 light years of travel. As a result, even with our most powerful optical telescopes we cannot see the centre of our galaxy, some 25,000 light years away. Beyond 6,000 years most studies are literally lost in the fog."

In 1951, Dr. Van de Hulst explained, it became possible to study the cold regions of interstellar space by means of radio astronomy. It was discovered that atoms of hydrogen gas broadcast characteristic radio waves about eight inches long. Highly directional antennas were developed to receive the waves, pinpoint the clouds of gas and follow their random wanderings through space.

Identify cloud composition Related techniques now enable scientists to identify the composition of the clouds, to chart their size, weigh their bulk and take their temperatures.

Some of the component particles are tiny particles of ice, so cold they can deep freeze anything but hydrogen and helium gas—hundreds of degrees below zero. Other components of the clouds—hydrogen gas atoms—dash through space with energies equivalent to 10,000 degrees above zero, a result of occasional impact between on-rushing clouds of gas.

When such clouds collide, atoms and ions are thrown off at enormous velocities in all directions. Some of these plunge into the earth constituting the thin, incessant rain of cosmic rays that rip through the genetic structure of living organisms.

It is these events that trigger the processes of evolution. Thus it would appear that man's destiny is linked not to the stars, as he once supposed, but rather to the "empty" space between them.

## Alberta spuds highly rated

The Alberta potato ranked highest for dryness on the dinner plate, against entries from six provinces and states at the Royal Winter Fair.

Alberta gems showed in the new cooking class won the first eight prizes with the exception of sixth place.

In the potato trade, 300 to 400 car loads of Alberta gems are shipped out of the province annually in competition with the famed Idaho russets from the U.S.

Boston opened the first subway in the U.S. in 1897. 3179

## PATENTS

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—By Les Carroll

You can't go ALL-OUT

If you feel ALL-IN

These days most people work under pressure, worry more, sleep less. This strain on body and brain makes physical fitness easier to lose—harder to regain. Today's tense living, lowered resistance, overwork, worry—any of these may affect normal kidney action. When kidneys get out of order, excess acids and wastes remain in the system. Then backache, disturbed rest, that "tired-out" heavy-headed feeling often follow. That's the time to take Dodd's Kidney Pills. Dodd's stimulate the kidneys to normal action. Then you feel better—sleep better—work better. Ask for Dodd's Kidney Pills at any drug counter.



## C.P.R. Diners And Food Habits

Cavair, pate de fois and fillet mignon, enhanced by vintage wines and rare liqueurs, are sharing favor these days with the traditional roast beef and lamb chops on Canadian Pacific Railway dining room cars.

A definite trend towards more exotic dining on the rails is noted by Thos. P. James, manager of the C.P.R.'s Sleeping, Dining, Parlor Car and News Department, particularly since the C.P.R. sent its stainless steel, streamlined, domestic train "The Canadian" into service nearly a year ago to shave 16 hours from the transcontinental schedule.

The Canadian as well as the company's other trans-continental train, The Dominion are equipped with the new stainless-steel dining cars each seating 48 passengers as compared with former cars seating 36. Luxuriously appointed, and discreetly lighted they are finished in gleaming plastics of attractive shades and are named for distinguished public rooms of Canadian Pacific hotels from coast to coast.

Whether the new decor and appointments set the mood for more leisurely and discriminating dining is a matter for conjecture. In any case more travellers seem disposed to stray from the routine dietary paths into the area of the experimental with interesting results.

While a dining car still stocks 300 pounds of chicken and 350 pounds of potatoes for the run from Montreal or Toronto to Vancouver, along with 270 pounds of beef, 125 pounds of lamb, 60 pounds of lamb chops and 160 pounds of ham, the gleaming stainless steel refrigerators and pantries store a wide range of delicacies.

There are Mapleque Oysters from Prince Edward Island, lobster from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and crabmeat from British Columbia. Gaspe and Fraser River Salmon, Lake Superior Whitefish and trout, Lake Winnipeg Gold-eyes and smoked salmon. Quebec Brome Lake Duckling, turkeys from Saskatchewan, and the best of Western Canadian beef, with Filet Mignon and sirloin steak the prime favorites. Cheeses are available in great variety, Oka from Montreal area nippy Old Canadian Cheddars from Ontario and Quebec, English Stilton, Roquefort

and Gruyere from abroad. A profusion of fruits from Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia.

Canadians like Americans, are noted abroad for their general preference for the solid staple foods and dining car patrons still show taste for the standard breakfast of fruit juice, and eggs and coffee. More of them, however, are beginning to experiment with fillet of fish, particularly dore. Dore incidentally, while well known to Quebec passengers must be listed on the menu as pickerel to win acceptance from Ontario travellers or from those from the western provinces.

White fish and lake trout, popular luncheon items, are appearing more frequently on the breakfast table.

It is during the dinner hour, however, that the trend to more varied eating is most evident. In provinces where sale of wines and liquors are permitted the cocktail hour is becoming an institution on the rails as well as in the smart hotels and cafes of the cities.

As it is elsewhere, the cocktail period in the scenic-dome observation lounge car is one of relaxation and fellowship. Fridships are struck up and frequently a table of four will be composed of a quartet who exchanged introductions only a half an hour earlier. All are in the mood for a good dinner and the stewards, chefs and waiters are ready and willing to oblige.

Canada's famed Welland Canal was opened in 1932.

Archaeologists' research shows that at approximately 1,500 B.C., a strictly Stone Age civilization existed around Montlach, Sask., similar to the ancient Yuma tribe of the southwestern B.C.

Canadian labor income continues to increase. The August, 1954 total of \$1,014,000,000 topped July by \$1,000,000 and last year's August

by \$20,000,000.

German rearming, when fully underway will produce some 500,000 troops for about the same money Canada spends for 120,000.

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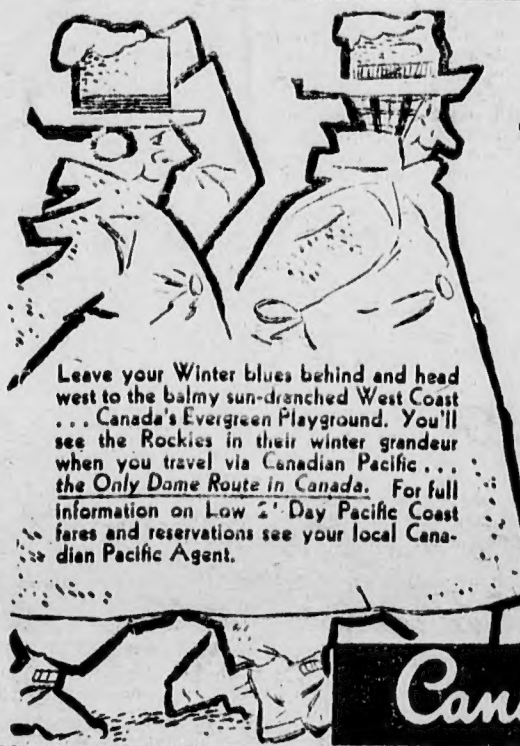
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Plans and specification, can be seen and forms of tender obtained at the offices of the Chief Architect, Department of Public Works, Ottawa, Ontario, the District Architect, Sun Building, 10363—108th Street, Edmonton, Alta., the Post Office Calgary, Alta.; the Post Office, Lethbridge, Alta., and the Post Office, Clareholm, Alberta.

To be considered each tender must be accompanied by a security in the form of a certified cheque or bonds as specified in the forms of tender and made on or according to these forms and in accordance with the conditions set forth therein.

The Department, through the Chief Architect's office or through the undersigned, or through the office of the District Architect, Sun Building, 10363—108th St. Edmonton, Alta., will supply blueprints and specification of the work on deposit of a sum of \$75.00 in the form of a cheque or money order payable to the order of the Minister of Public Works. The deposit will be released on return of the blue prints and specification in good condition within a month from the date of reception of tenders. If not returned within that period the deposit will be forfeited.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.  
ROBERT FORTIER,  
Chief of Administrative Services and Secretary,  
Department of Public Works,  
Ottawa, January 25, 1956.



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